

Message Text

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73

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 FEA-02 AEC-11 AID-20

CEA-02 CIAE-00 CIEP-03 COME-00 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-03

INR-11 INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 OMB-01 PM-07 RSC-01

SAM-01 SCI-06 SP-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 FRB-03 AF-10

ARA-16 NEA-14 DRC-01 /210 W
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R 051818Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1943

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OLSO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 6806

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG

SUBJECT: SWISS INTEREST IN PARTICIPATION IN IEP

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1. U.S. DELEGATION TO ECG WORKING GROUP, ACCOMPANIED BY OFFICERS FROM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS AND USEC, MET SEPTEMBER 5 WITH SWISS DELEGATION WHICH WAS IN BRUSSELS TO CONSULT WITH ECG CHAIRMAN DAVIGNON ON POSSIBLE SWISS PARTICIPATION IN IEP.

2. SWISS REPORTED THAT THEIR DISCUSSIONS WITH DAVIGNON HAD GONE VERY WELL AND REITERATED STRONG SWISS INTEREST IN EXPLORING POSSIBLE MEMBERSHIP IN IEP. SWISS APPEAR TO HAVE FULL AND COMPLETE UNDERSTANDING OF ALL OBLIGATIONS WHICH IEP MEMBERSHIP WOULD IMPOSE, INCLUDING SELECTIVE TRIGGER.

3. SWISS WERE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN EXTENT TO WHICH USG NOW HAS LEGAL AUTHORITY TO MEET ITS OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE PROGRAM AND WHETHER WE PLANNED TO SEEK SPECIFIC CONGRESSIONAL AUTHORITY FOR IEP. WE REPLIED THAT WE DO PLAN TO SEEK LEGISLATION IN SOME AREAS BUT THAT WE BELIEVE WE COULD THROUGH COMBINATION OF MEANS FULFILL OUR MAJOR OBLIGATIONS (DEMAND RESTRAINT, ALLOCATION, ETC.) IF PROGRAM WERE ACTIVATED BEFORE SUCH LEGISLATION WAS OBTAINED. ALSO, IN RESPONSE TO SWISS QUESTION, WE EXPLAINED THAT WE HAD CONSULTED CLOSELY WITH U.S. OIL COMPANIES AND BELIEVE THE COMPANIES ARE PREPARED TO COOPERATE WILLINGLY WITH PROGRAM.

4. SWISS MADE IT CLEAR THAT THEY STRONGLY PREFER TO SEE IEP PLACED IN OECD CONTEXT AND THAT THEY DESIRE FRENCH PARTICIPATION. THEY ALSO SAID, HOWEVER, THAT NEITHER OF THESE SHOULD BE VIEWED AS ESSENTIAL PRE-CONDITION FOR SWISS PARTICIPATION SINCE THEY ARE BOTH DEVELOPMENTS OVER WHICH ECG COUNTRIES DO NOT HAVE COMPLETE CONTROL.

5. AT CLOSE OF CONVERSATION, SWISS ASKED WHETHER, IF GOS DEFINITELY DECIDES TO SEEK STATUS AS ORIGINAL MEMBER IN IEP MEMBERSHIP, THERE WOULD BE ANY OBJECTION IN PRINCIPLE TO PRESENCE OF SWISS OBSERVERS AT ANY MEETING OF ECG AFTER THAT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 19-20. THEY INDICATED THIS COULD HAVE PRESENTATIONAL CONFIDENTIAL

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VALUE FOR THEM IN TERMS OF SWISS PUBLIC. WE REPLIED THAT WHILE WE SAW NO MAJOR OBJECTION IN PRINCIPLE TO THIS PROPOSAL, THIS WAS QUESTION WHICH WOULD HAVE TO BE ADDRESSED BY ECG AS A GROUP POSSIBLY AT SEPTEMBER 19-20 MEETING. SWISS INDICATED THAT THEIR GOVERNMENT WILL PROBABLY MAKE FIRM DECISION ON IEP PARTICIPATION WITHIN NEXT FEW WEEKS. FIRESTONE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEMBERSHIP, PETROLEUM INDUSTRY, MEETING DELEGATIONS, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, IEP, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BRUSSE06806
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740247-0072
From: BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740974/aaaackdj.tel
Line Count: 114
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 MAR 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <16 MAY 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SWISS INTEREST IN PARTICIPATION IN IEP CONFIDENTIAL
TAGS: ENRG, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005